

Building Better Health

Beth Israel Lahey Health
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center

An update on BIDMC's Community-Based Health Initiative

[Chinese Simplified \(中文简体字\)](#)
[Chinese Traditional \(中文繁體字\)](#)

[Haitian Creole \(Kreyòl Ayisyen\)](#)
[Russian \(русский\)](#)

[Cape Verde \(Cabo Verde\)](#)
[Portuguese \(Português\)](#)

[Spanish \(Español\)](#)
[Vietnamese \(Tiếng Việt\)](#)

January 2024

Announcing New Grantees

Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (BIDMC) is excited to announce that 10 local organizations and one City of Boston agency have been selected to receive a total of \$7.25M over three years in funding for initiatives addressing housing affordability, jobs and financial security and behavioral health.

Housing Affordability (\$850,000 each)

[Boston's Higher Ground](#): Building the capacity of the [Family-Led Stability Initiative](#), which links education and affordable housing to reduce family homelessness and improve health and educational outcomes for Boston Public School families.

[Boston Housing Authority](#): Strengthening the [First Home Program](#) by increasing downpayment

assistance and homeownership education for Boston Housing Authority residents and increasing the number of lenders who understand the process of working with subsidized low- and moderate-income applicants.

[HomeStart](#): Growing the [Eviction Prevention Program](#) in Eastern Housing Court to be able to serve those households (<30% of Area Median Income) who are most likely to experience homelessness by way of nonpayment eviction.

[International Institute of New England](#): Launching Families First, an initiative to expand immigrant access to emergency shelter, avoid homelessness and access legal support to avoid eviction.

Jobs and Financial Security (\$650,000 each)

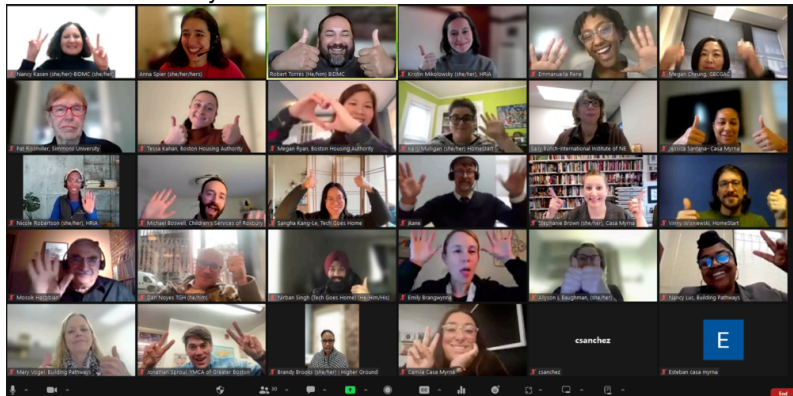
[Building Pathways](#): Expanding and enhancing the Pre-Apprenticeship Program, which provides a pathway for low-income Boston residents to enter careers in the construction trades while creating a pipeline of new talent to replace an aging workforce and meet labor demands for the construction market.

[Casa Myrna](#): Expanding the Savings and Employment Incentive Program (SEIP) to serve additional youth and adult survivors of domestic violence; SEIP matches participants' debt reduction payments, facilitates debt relief negotiations, offers financial coaching/planning and provides matched savings for rent increases.

[Tech Goes Home](#): Offering more Boston residents a comprehensive digital inclusion program – including 15 hours of community-based training, a new computer, and, if needed, a year of internet access – to expand economic opportunities.

[YMCA of Greater Boston](#): Expanding the Early Childhood Education Apprenticeship program, which provides paid on-the-job training that allows enrollees to become certified and subsequently placed in early education teaching positions.

Behavioral Health (\$416,666 each)



[Children's Services of Roxbury](#): Expanding the Front Porch program that provides free access to multilingual and multicultural mental health services by pairing parents and caregivers with trained parent peers with lived experience to help parents and caregivers navigate systems, develop self-advocacy skills and access resources to achieve personal and family goals.

[Greater Boston Chinese Golden Age Center](#): Elevating the Healthy Ideas program that increases mental health awareness and reduces stigma among the Chinese community, provides individual counseling sessions for Chinese-speaking adults and facilitates support groups to foster ongoing peer assistance and mental wellness.

[Simmons University](#): Implementing a train-the-trainer model with Fenway High School students to teach evidence-based strategies, including mindfulness, yoga, and health and wellness behaviors that the students can utilize to prevent and manage behavioral health problems.

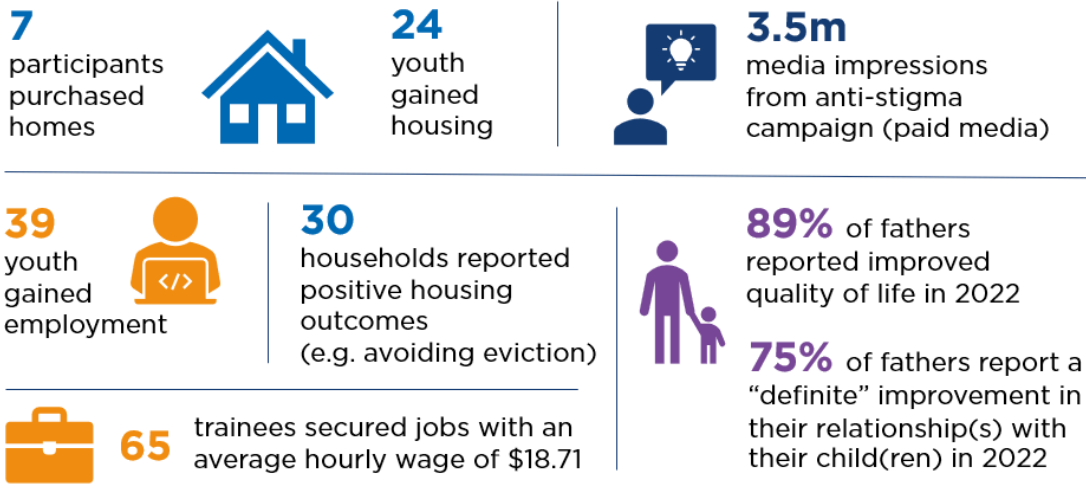
BIDMC is delighted to partner with these organizations over the next three years to invest in the health and well-being of our community.

This funding represents the final major investment out of a total of approximately \$30 million dollars that have been allocated as part of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health Determination of Need (DoN) process for BIDMC's [Klarman Building](#). Out of this total, BIDMC has directly awarded \$18.4 million in grants to the community and contributed \$7.5 million to the Massachusetts Community Health and Healthy Aging Funds.

Thank You to Our First Cohort of Grantees!

We wish to extend our heartfelt appreciation to our [inaugural cohort of grantees](#), who have done incredible and impactful work over the last three years, especially in light of the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

See examples of the impact our grantees have had in the image below.



! Policy win: Increase in the overall funding for the Mass Rental Voucher Program and **lowered tenants' income** that goes towards rent from 40% income to 30%

These organizations have been outstanding partners in addressing the root causes of inequities in our communities. We look forward to sharing an evaluation report demonstrating their collective impact in the coming months.

Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative Projects Funded

After engaging with residents in their communities over the summer and early fall, collectives in Allston/Brighton, Mission Hill and Roxbury developed project proposals that aligned with resident-selected priorities.

The *Allston Brighton Health Collaborative* will develop and support a cohort of Allston-Brighton Connectors (ABCs) that understand information and service gaps, connect residents to resources and programming and work with residents around advocacy.

The *Mission Hill Healthy Neighborhood Collaborative* will implement intergenerational programming that will connect youth and older adults through activities that build a sense of belonging and interconnectedness among

these different age groups.

The *Roxbury Collaborative for Affordable Housing*, working alongside other agencies, will provide Roxbury residents with tools to advance rent control as a policy to address displacement and housing affordability.



Contact Us

Stay in Touch

Stay tuned for regular updates about BIDMC's Community-based Health Initiative. For more information, visit us at bidmc.org/chi. For questions, please email NIBCHI@bidmc.harvard.edu.

PRINT FRIENDLY VERSION

Beth Israel Lahey Health 
Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center